CLAIMS

- 1. An exercise therapy device comprising:
- pedals;
- a pedal rotation shaft connected with the pedals;
- a load motor for rotation-driving the pedal rotation shaft; and
- a load control means for drive-controlling the load motor such that the load motor causes a rotating motion of the pedal rotation shaft to be started.
- 2. The exercise therapy device according to Claim 1, wherein the load control means controls the load motor such that the load motor assists a start load at a start of the rotating motion of the pedal rotation shaft.
- 3. The exercise therapy device according to Claim 1, further comprising a judgment means for making a judgment as to whether the pedal rotation shaft is being rotated by an assisting force of the load motor or not.
- 4. The exercise therapy device according to Claim 1, further comprising a drive transmission means for transmitting the rotating motion of the pedal rotation shaft to the load motor,

wherein the judgment means has a detecting portion for

detecting a sag in a configuration of the drive transmission means to output a sag detection signal; and

the load control means controls driving and stopping of the load motor based on the sag detection signal output from the detecting portion.

- 5. The exercise therapy device according to Claim 3, further comprising:
- a pedal shaft pulley provided on the pedal rotation shaft; and
 - a load side pulley provided on the load motor,

wherein the drive transmission means comprises a belt looped around the pedal shaft pulley and the load side pulley.